

Spain vol. 2.

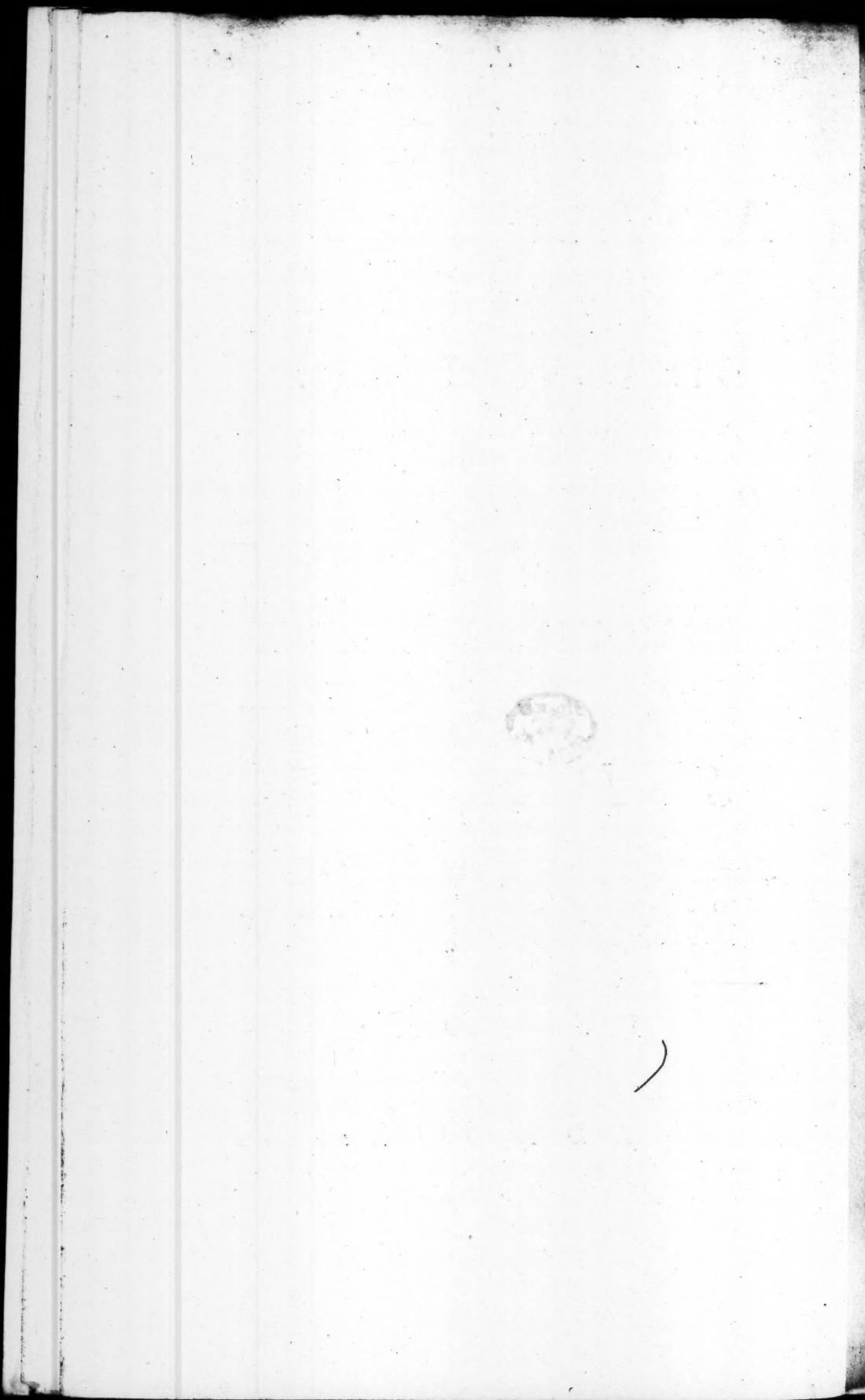
THE
ADVANTAGES
AND
DISADVANTAGES
Which will attend the
PROHIBITION
OF THE
MERCHANDISES
OF
S P A I N,

Impartially examined, and humbly offered
to the CONSIDERATION of the
PARLIAMENT.

By a *Suffex FARMER.*

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NOTHING is of more Importance to a Nation, than a well regulated Commerce. A foreign Trade may be either a Fountain of Wealth and Vigour, or a Gulph swallowing up the Riches and Strength of a People. It therefore behoves a Nation, at all Times, to have a watchful Eye over every Branch of its Commerce, but more especi-

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ally so, when it is actually engaged in a War with any of its neighbouring Powers, with whom it has a considerable Traffick. A judicious Attention to Trade, at such a Conjunction, may *strengthen* a Country, and *enervate* its Enemies. The Management of Commerce, at such a *Crisis*, may either be a Means of protracting, or bringing a War to a more speedy and happy Conclusion.

THERE is, at this present Time, a Rupture between the *Spanish* Nation and that of *Great Britain*, and Hostilities have actually been begun on both Sides. The King of *Spain*, from his hereditary Rancour and Hatred to the *English* Nation, has, in his late Declaration of War, laid a most effectual Scheme for preventing the Importation of *Goods*, the *Growth*, *Manufacture*, or *Merchandize* of the Subjects of the King of *Great Britain*, even on neutral Bottoms; and has prohibited, under the severest Penalties, the harbouring or selling of any such Goods or Merchandizes in any Part of his Dominions.

JUST before the *Christmas Holidays*, the *House of Commons* judiciously resolved, that a
Bill

Bill should be brought in to prohibit the Importation of *Goods*, the *Growth*, *Manufacture*, or *Merchandize* of the Subjects of the King of *Spain*. It seems, by the bringing in the Bill at that particular Time, as if the *House* intended to give the trading Part of the Nation an Opportunity to canvass the Affair, and publish their Sentiments of it against the meeting of the Parliament. It is certainly a Matter of great Concern to the Nation, and therefore ought to be thoroughly scrutinized. It cannot therefore be impertinent to examine into the Nature and Consequences of such a Bill; and state, in as clear a Light as possible, the Advantages and Disadvantages which may attend it, when passed into a Law.

I hope the Reader will regard what is here advanced impartially, and consider, that the *Author* has the Welfare and Prosperity of his Country at Heart. He ought to reflect, that to *wish well* is to *deserve well*; and that a *good* Design badly executed, carries some Merit in it; claims at *least* Pardon, if not Applause, and at *worst* ought to be esteemed only an excusable Presumption. I shall say no more by way of Apology for my Attempt, or the many

many Faults which may attend the Execution of it, but proceed immediately to my Design.

IN order to judge rightly of the Affair which is under our Consideration, it may not be improper to reflect a little on the various *Merchandizes* and *Commodities* which compose the Traffick of the two Nations, *Great Britain* and *Spain*, in Time of Peace; from whence we may draw some Observations which ought to influence the Conduct of a *British* Parliament at this Juncture in this Affair.

THE Commodities *Spain* takes from us are *Broad-cloth*, *Druggets*, *Callimancoes*, *Bays*, *Says*, *Perpets*, *Stuff's*, *Cotton*, *Worsted* and *Silk Hose*, &c. *Fish*, *Tin*, *Lead*, *Corn*, *Coals*, *Negroes*, &c.

THE Merchandizes we receive from them are *Wine*, *Oil*, *Soap*, *Fruit*, *Iron*, *Indigo*, *Cochineal*, some *Dy-stuff's* and *Drugs*.

By the King of *Spain*'s Declaration of War, he has prohibited all the Commodities
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abovementioned with which this Nation furnished *Spain*, which, to be sure, must have very bad Effects in several Parts of the Kingdom, as many Labourers, Artificers and Manufacturers, will be thereby deprived of their Employment and Means of subsisting, and great Burdens of Poor will be brought upon Parishes. As the Demand for the several Commodities and Manufactures above specified will be lessened, the Price of *English Wooll* must sink, unless some Scheme can be formed to keep up its Value. These are unavoidable Misfortunes and Distresses, arising from the Enmity between the two Nations, and are the natural Products of War and Hostility, which, as by our prudent Conduct we could not evade, we must, by our Policy, endeavour to alleviate.

BUT as our Enemies have taken this Method, in order to weaken and distress us, as well as to shew their Animosity towards us, it behoves us, in point of good Policy, to make *Reprizals* upon them, and prohibit every Commodity we have not an immediate Necessity of for the carrying on our Trade and Manufactures with other Nations. I shall

shall therefore make some Observations upon the various *Goods*, *Merchandizes*, and *Commodities* we have from them.

To begin with their *Wines*. This is an Article which administers only to Luxury, and of which we have no absolute Necessity. But if some Persons, by Habit and Custom, think it impossible to support themselves in Health without the Assistance of the Juice of the Grape, *Portugal*, *Maderas*, the *Rhine*, *Italy*, and the *Levant* will supply Wines equal in Goodness to, many of them much better than the *Spanish* Wines: And though some of them may come a little dearer, it will be much better to pay something extraordinary, than to carry on a Traffick scandalous, pernicious, and destructive to our Nation; and which will be a Means to animate, strengthen, and render our Enemies insolent. Nothing surely can tend more to inspire them with Contempt of us, than their considering, that though we are at War with them, and they have totally prohibited our Merchandizes, yet our *Luxury* is so great and necessitous, our *Appetites* so irrational and craving, that we will gratify them, though thereby

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we weaken and impoverish ourselves ; strengthen and invigorate our Enemies ; and farther, render ourselves the Reproach and Contempt of every thinking People round about us.

I AM inclined to think, we do not import annually much less than 10,000 Tuns of *Spanish* Wines, besides Brandies, which amount to the Consumers to near 1,000,000 *l.* Sterling, a prodigious Sum ! I think, it behoves our Gentlemen and Tradesmen, who have Lands, to take into Consideration, whether it would not be more beneficial to the Nation, and advantageous to themselves, to brew *Pale-Malt-Liquors*, and keep them to a due Age, whereby they would be supplied with a fine wholesome Beverage, the Products of their Lands would be more easily consumed, their Value raised, and the above annual Expence for *Spanish* Luxury be saved to themselves, and a very great Sum to the Nation, as Affairs now stand with *Spain*.

THE next Thing to be considered, which we import from *Spain*, is *Oyl*. The chief Use of this is for making Soap, and working up our Woollen Manufactures. If *Spain* was the only Country from whence we could be supplied with *Oyl*, there might be good Reason for excepting this *Commodity* in the Act of Prohibition. But as we can have *Oyl* enough from *Portugal*, *Leghorn*, and *Gallipoli* to carry on our Woollen Manufactures, there is no Necessity at all to exempt this *Commodity*. In the courser Manufactures *Rape-Oyl* answers the End of *Olive-Oyl*; and is only more fetid and disagreeable to the Smell, the Inconvenience of which is soon overcome by Use and Time. If *Rape-Oyl* were universally used in the courser Manufactures, there would arise from it a considerable Advantage to the Lands, and an Annual Saving to the Nation of an immense Sum. If the Bill for prohibiting *Spanish* Merchandizes passes into a Law, it would certainly be very proper for it, to specify in what Sort of Goods, and those only, *Olive-Oyl* shall be used.

IN the City of *London*, I learn, vast Quantities of *Oyl* are used in making *Soap*, which is consumed in washing only; which prevents the Consumption of *Tallow*, keeps down the Price of that Commodity, to the great Injury of the *Farmer*, *Grazier*, and the *Landed-Interest*.

FURTHER, it may be objected, that by the Prohibition of *Spanish Oyl, Soap* would be wanting to carry on our Woollen Manufactures. I must say, in Answer to this, I cannot see any Foundation for such a Supposition; the contrary will appear evident from the following Remarks which I shall make on the Article of *Soap*.

WE are at present supplied with large Quantities of *French Soap* from *Leghorn*, besides *Italian*; as also an extraordinary fine *Soap* from *Joppa*; which is as proper for all Branches of our Manufactures, as any imported from *Alicant*, commonly known by the Name of *Castile Soap*. In my Opinion it is worth the Attention of the *British Senate* at this Juncture, to consider whether

Encouragement ought not to be given to the Importation of Joppa Soap, that we may be supplied with it both for Home-Consumption, Exportation to *Jamaica, &c.* where *Tallow-Soap* cannot be used. As the *Levant* takes our Manufactures in Return for those Commodities, it is certainly for our Interest to encourage the Importation of this Commodity from those Parts, and discourage the bringing it from *Italy*, where it is paid for partly in Money, and is chiefly imported from *France* for it, and afterwards re-exported to us.

THE next Article to be considered is *Spanish Fruit*, under which Word I comprehend *Raisins, Figs, Oranges, Lemons, Almonds, Nuts, Cocoa, Piemento, Capers, and Olives.*

THESE are all Articles which contribute only to *Luxury*, and which we have no absolute Necessity for. But if we are grown so voluptuous, that we must have them, there is no Need of going to *Spain* for them. What *Raisins* we want, we may have from *Smyrna*, only they come, through the heavy Duty.

Duty laid on them, something dearer. As I remember, it was moved in the last Sessions of Parliament, for lowering the Duties, and encouraging the Importation of *Smyrna* Raisins; what Success it met with does not occur to me at present. However, I think the Importation of this Commodity ought to be encouraged also, for the Reasons I gave above in the Consideration of the Article of *Oyl* with Regard to *Joppa Soap*.

As to *Figs*, we may have enough of them from *Algarve*, *St. Faro*, *Figuera*, and *Barbary*: From *Lisbon*, *Oporto*, *Genoa*, and *Italy* we may be supplied with *Oranges* and *Lemons*: *Barbary* will yield us *Almonds*; *Jamaica*, *Cocoa* and *Pimento*; *Leghorn*, *Capers*; *Lucca*, *Olives*; and *Holland*, other Spices; so that we may sate our Luxury without trafficking with our Enemies, and giving them our Gold for Trifles, by which Means they would be in a Capacity of returning it to us again converted into Lead, the Instruments of our Destruction.

THE whole of this single Article of Fruit amounts to a prodigious Sum ! And the Want of a Market for these Commodities must distress the *Spaniards* very sensibly.

THE next Thing to be considered is *Spanish Iron*. Of this I think we have no very great Quantity, and can be at no great Loss for it ; since we can have a sufficient Supply from *Norway* and *Sweden*. I can't help reflecting here, on the Advantages which would accrue from our encouraging the making *Pig-Iron* in our *Colonies* ; and the vast Ballance which might yearly be saved to the Nation, which is now paid to the *Swedes*.

THE next Article which offers for our Consideration is that of *Indigo*, *Cochineal*, and some other *Dying-Stuffs*. We have great Quantities of these from our *Colonies*, the *East-Indies* and *France*. But doubtless, upon the Prohibition of these from *Spain*, the Price of them would be considerably raised, whereby our Woollen Manufactures would be injured. It should be a Maxim,

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to keep the Price of all *Dying-Goods* as low as possible, and the reason is so plain, that this Affair wants no Illustration. Therefore I would humbly recommend it, that all *Dy-stuffs* be excepted in the Bill of Prohibition.

THE only Article of Commerce which remains to be considered is that of SPANISH WOOLL. This is a Commodity which is the Growth of *Spain* only, and is to be had from no other Country. Without excepting this in the Prohibition Bill depending in the House of Commons, it will be impossible to serve the Markets abroad with *Spanish Cloth* after eighteen Months, or two Years at farthest. As this *Commodity* employs a pretty large Body of Manufacturers in the *West of England*, and as *Spanish Cloth* is a Manufacture worn and coveted by all Degrees of People who are able to purchase it, this Article of *Spanish Wooll* appears worthy of a critical Examination. We therefore will, as briefly as possible, consider the Advantages and Disadvantages which will follow the Probibition of this Commodity, and trace all the Circumstances

Cumstances and Consequences of such a Prohibition in the minutest and most accurate Manner possible.

ACCORDING to the best Accounts I can procure, we import in the several Ports of this Kingdom about six thousand Packs of *Spanish Wooll* in a Year; each Pack containing, one with another, about 200 Pounds of Wooll, which, deducting Freightage and Commission, may amount to about the Value of 120000 *L.* in Time of War, when we are obliged to have it from our Neighbours the *French* or *Dutch*: This Sum we must pay annually to the *Spaniards* for their Wooll. This is a very great Treasure to throw into the Coffers of our Enemies, which ought not to be done without the maturest Consideration, and Appearance of the strongest Necessity. For my own Part, I imagine I shall be capable to prove, by undeniable Arguments, that it will be of great Advantage to the Nation to prohibit the Importation of this raw Commodity, so long as our Merchandizes continue under a Prohibition in *Spain*, and we cannot have *Spanish Wooll*

Wooll in return for our own Growth and Manufactures. Nay, so long as we are at War with *Spain*, we ought to prohibit that Commodity, tho' the *Spaniards* themselves would take our Manufactures in return for it; for we should thereby distress the *Spaniards*, who cannot find a Market in the World for the Wooll this Nation takes from them.

IT is manifest to the meanest Capacity, that when we exchange Commodities which are of our own Growth, Manufacture, or Labour, for raw Materials to be manufactured, that such a Trade must be beneficial, and such a Commodity may be regarded as our own Product, it being purchased without Money, and given in Exchange for our own Growth and Labour. When we had an open Trade with *Spain*, this was the Case with regard to *Spanish Wooll*. If we took off their Wooll, they took off our Wooll manufactured in return for it; so that here we had the Advantage of them, as our Wooll was raised to four Times its Value by Labour; from whence greater Numbers of our Peo-

ple were employed than could possibly be in the Production of their Wooll, which is a raw Material. We had farther another Advantage by this, which was, that with this raw Material we formed a new Manufacture, which found a Market abroad, and which gave Employment to Hands, which must have been otherwise idle, or have reduced the Earnings of Labourers in other Manufactures.

WHILE therefore we had an *open* Trade with *Spain*, the Importation of *Spanish Wooll* was a Benefit to us, and gave Employment to a vast Number of Hands, which were engaged in a Manufacture to be given in return for it. But now the *Spaniards* have prohibited our Merchandizes, Goods and Manufactures, every Pack of *Spanish Wooll* we import, and is consumed at Home, is just so much Loss to the Nation as it cost; and so far as it is a Loss to us, it becomes just so far doubly a Support to them. The Importation of *Spanish Wooll* therefore must be a melancholy Consideration to every true *Briton*, who has a Regard for the Welfare of his

his Country, who desires to humble the Pride of *Spain*, revenge the Barbarities, Cruelties and Insults offered to our Countrymen, the Depredations committed upon our Merchants, and the trifling *Chicanery* used, and Affronts given to the sacred Majesty of our Prince.

BUT perhaps it may be objected by *some*, that if we prohibit the Importation of *Spanish Wooll*, after Twelve Months we shall not be able to furnish the Markets abroad with *Spanish Cloth*; so that they will be obliged to have Recourse to the *French* and the *Dutch* for this Commodity, who will thereby be introduced into this Trade which we now have, and which we shall have a very difficult Matter ever to recover again. And furthermore, that we shall loose annually a Sum equal to the Amount of the Labour of the whole Export of *Spanish Cloth*. To this may be also added, that vast Burdens of Poor will be thrown upon the Parishes where this Manufacture of fine *Spanish Cloth* is carried on; and many Manufacturers, and their Families,

Families, will be left in a starving Condition.

THESE Suggestions appear, at first Sight, with a very melancholy Aspect ; and if they were founded on Truth and Reason, would be of sufficient Weight to byass us against a Prohibition of this Commodity : But when they come to be examined in a critical Manner, all these seeming *Bugbears* and *Monsters* will vanish, and Prospects of Profit and Advantage arise in their Room.

As to the *first* of these. According to the Information I have received from *Clothiers*, whom I lately discoursed with about their Manufacture, I find that there are about 18000 *Spanish Cloths* made yearly, from Twelve Shillings and Sixpence to Sixteen Shillings a Yard. Of these 18000 Cloths, there are about a thousand *per Annum* exported, which, at 18 *L.* per Cloth, amounts to 18000 *L.* a mere Trifle, which, with Regard to our Exports in général, is scarce worth mentioning. Half of this 18000 *L.* is paid to the *Spaniards* for their Wooll ; so that

that the Gain to the Nation by the Exportation of *Spanish Cloth* is but about 9000 *L.* per Annum, a Trifle not worth Observation, when compared with the Loss we shall sustain by the Importation of *Spanish Wooll*. As I have shewn above, if we import *Spanish Wooll* by way of *France* or *Holland*, that Commodity will cost us near 120000 *L.* a Year, out of which we shall export again about 18000 *L.* so that here will be annually lost, by this Trade in *Spanish Wooll*, 102000 *L.* But this is not the only Misfortune which will attend the Importation of *Spanish Wooll*; for it will also reduce the Price of our own Wooll, and strengthen the Hands of our Enemies.

IF we consider the whole Manufacture of *Spanish Wooll*, it is but a Trifle when compared with the Manufacture of *English Wooll*. A Year's Make of *Spanish Cloth* amounts to but about 18,000, which will make 90,000 Suits; and there is not paid for Labour, in the whole Manufacture, above 162,000 *l. per Annum*, a Sum so small, that I believe there are some single Towns, which pay

pay twice as much for manufacturing *English Wooll*. This 162,000 *l.* will maintain but 27,000 Souls, at 6 *l.* per Head per Annum; whereas the Value of the Labour of the People in the Manufacture of *English Wooll* is above 12 Millions and a half. Upon the Whole, I conclude that the Gain on our Export of *Spanish Cloth* is a Trifle which ought not to be put in the Ballance against the great Advantage of keeping near 120,000 *l.* per Annum at home by our Prohibition of *Spanish Wooll*.

I THINK there is no Likelihood, or Probability of our being beaten out of our Trade for *Spanish Cloths*, which we now enjoy, by the *Dutch* and *French* serving those Countries during the Prohibition of *Spanish Wooll*, for it is the Goodness of our Cloth, and the Nature of our Trade with those Countries which occasions us to have a Demand for it: So that as soon as our Trade is open with *Spain*, we shall again have a Demand for those Cloths. The *French* serve some of the same Countries as we do; but then they do it with an inferior Commodity, not of so

so substantial and neat a Fabric as ours, and at a much lower Price. Some Countries they are not admitted to serve, because they do not take off such Produce of those Countries as we. And while the Prohibition of *Spanish Wooll* continues, we shall supply the Markets with a Manufacture made of the finest Locks of our *English Wooll*, which very near equals Goods made of *Spanish Wooll*, and which, the *Clothiers* tell me, is hardly to be distinguished from Cloth made with *Spanish Wooll*.

BESIDES, it may as well be said, that we shall never regain our Markets in *Spain* for Goods made of *English Wooll*, because the *French* and *Dutch*, during the War, will supply them with Woollen Manufactures, as that we shall not regain our Markets for *Spanish Cloth*, if the same Nations serve them during the War. But common Experience, our Trade with *Spain* since the late War, and the Restoration of the *French* Trade after the Plague at *Marseilles*, convince us that this Objection is as light as Vanity itself.

SOME

SOME may perhaps object, as we have no *Spaniſh Cloth* for our own Wear, this will tempt Gentlemen to have Suits made in *France* and *Holland*, and the *French* and *Dutch* to run in *Spaniſh Cloaths* upon us. As we may be supplied with a Cloth made out of our own *English Wooll* so fine, that it is hardly to be distinguished from Cloth made out of *Spaniſh Wooll*: I think there is no great Fear of *this*. Besides, a Clause may be inserted in the Prohibition Act, to prevent Travellers, when they come into the *British Dominions*, from bringing with them any more than two or three Suits of Clothes; and to oblige them to make Oath, that such Cloaths were designed only for their own wearing Apparel, and were finished compleatly by the Taylor: For it is too common a Practice even now, to import Suits of foreign Cloth, just stitched together, as wearing Apparel, which afterwards may be made to fit any Person; this is a Practice more pernicious than the Importation of Cloth itself, as such Cloth comes fully trimmed. Likewise such a Penalty might be laid upon the Importer, Seller, Buyer,

Buyer and Wearer of foreign Cloth, as would effectually prevent its being run in upon us.

FURTHERMORE I have observed for some Years past, that very coarse Goods have run as a Fashion, and have been adorned with the richest Laces ; I see no Reason therefore to suppose that now Gentlemen should refuse to wear the Produce of their own Estates, which would be a double Advantage to them, and run after *French* and *Dutch Spanish* Clothes, of flimsy Make, and spungy Fabric, purely because they are prohibited, and such Wear will injure their Country. There is at present among all Degrees of People such Resentment, Animosity, and Aversion to the *French* and *Spaniards*, that there is Room to think, People will become less and less fond of the Fashions, Produce, and Manufactures of the *French*, as well as conceive a Dislike to every thing of the Growth of *Spain*. But if we should have any Gentlemen so curious, as to think their own Wooll not good enough for their Wear, we may mix

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the Fur of *Beavers* with our own finest Wooll, and make an exceeding fine Cloth for them. This would be an Advantage to us, as we have this Commodity partly from *New York* and *Jersy*, where the Inhabitants exchange our coarse Manufactures for the Furs they receive from the *Canadeze* Nations.

THE next Enquiry is, what is to be done with the 27,000 Persons who were supported by the fine *Spaniſh* Manufacture ? In Answer to which I reply, the *Clothiers* will naturally fall into the Method of manufacturing the finest *Locks of English Wooll*. This they will do to employ their own Stocks, and ease their own Estates ; and in this Trade there is a Probability of their having greater Profits than in their other Trade of manufacturing *Spaniſh* Wooll, as I have heard some of them say. The Manufacturers of *Spaniſh* Wooll having always been employed in a nice Commodity, they will be capable to make a more elegant Cloth out of *English* Wooll than those who have always manufactured *English* Wooll only.

If any one should ask, where they will have fine Locks to manufacture. I would answer them, that as the *Spaniſh* Manufacture consumes but about 5000 Packs per *Annum* of 240 l. a Pack, and as the whole Growth of *England* amounts to about 700,000 Packs, it must be an easy Matter to pick fine Locks enough out of this vast Quantity, to employ all the Hands which now manufacture *Spaniſh* Wooll.

FARTHER, the Necessity of fine Locks that will ensue, and the Price fine Wooll will bear, will encourage our Growers and Farmers to cote and house their Sheep in the Winter, whereby the Fineness of the Wooll will be improved, and raised perhaps to equal *Spaniſh*. And if a *Spaniſh* War should last long, it might bring our Farmers into such a Method of producing fine Wooll, that we might be under no Necessity of importing *Spaniſh* Wooll at any Time; the happy Consequence of which would be, that our Lands would be thereby much improved, and our Farmers enabled to pay their Rents better.

BUT supposing, that after the Conclusion of the War, *Spaniſh* Wooll should be imported as formerly, certainly the Price of fine *Engliſh* would be raised during the War, and *Engliſh* Wooll of many Kinds would sell the higher for the Prohibition of *Spaniſh*; to which may be added, that the present dead Stock of *Engliſh* Wooll would be funk in one Year 5000 Packs, which would be worn by those very Persons who now wear the Growth of *Spain*; or at least we should have 5000 Packs the less in dead Stock.

I BELIEVE no one would be so weak, as to suggest, that we shold want Wooll to supply our other Manufactures; but if any should, it would be easy to answer them, that we might have a sufficient Supply from *Ireland*. And further, if such a Necessity should arise, it perhaps would be the greatest Blessing which could befall this Nation. Should our own Wooll not be sufficient, and we under a Necessity of more *Irish* Wooll to carry on our Manufactures, the *Irish* would be under no Temptation to run the Hazard of

of owing to *France, Holland, and the Netherlands*; which clandestine and unlawful Trade has hitherto enabled those Countries to make various Sorts of Woollen Goods, which otherwise they would not have been able to manufacture, and by which they have wormed us out of great Part of our Trade to *Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Turkey.*

THE Misfortune the *British Dominions* lie under at present, is the having too much Wooll, and there is no fear at all of having too little. If our own Growth of Wooll increase, and we cannot find Markets to vend our Manufactures in, this will be a Misfortune instead of a Blessing, and will tempt our Farmers to run this precious Commodity into those Countries where they cannot carry on their Manufactures without it, from whence I would be bold to say, that *Dutch Policy* would be the greatest Advantage to us, I mean to burn the Overplus of Wooll, which is not wanted in our Manufactures, as they do their Spices in *Sumatra, &c.*

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WE might as rationally attempt to make the richest *Damasks*, *Velvets*, *Alamodes*, and *Lutstrings*, &c. with *Turkish Silk*, as the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Flemings*, make several Fabricks of our Woollen Goods, without Wooll of *Irish* or *British* Growth. And to be sure, the King of *Sardinia* would not suffer the Exportation of *Piedmontese* Silk unwrought, but that he knows, in Case of his Refusal, we can have a supply from other Parts.

HITHERTO we have considered principally the Advantages and Disadvantages to our own Trade and Nation, by prohibiting all *Spanish Merchandizes*, &c. it may not be improper, in the next Place, to reflect a little on the Consequences of such Prohibition to *Spain* itself.

IT is generally supposed that the *English* Nation consumes near two thirds of the Produce of *Spain*, which is exported. Therefore the greatest Part of their Trade for their own Produce depends upon a friendly Intercourse between the two Nations. The

French

French are too fruitful, the Northern Nations too poor, and the *Dutch* too frugal to dabble much in the Luxury *Spain* produces. 'Tis therefore to *Great Britain* they are beholden for the Consumption of the Produce of *Old Spain*, and the greatest Part of their Trade.

THE *French* are in no Want of their *Wines*, *Oyl*, *Soap*, *Indigo*, *Fruit*, *Dy-stuffs*, &c. so far are they from it, that they have enough of these for their own Consumption, and an *Overplus* to export to other Nations. *French* Counsels, and a *French* Faction, must therefore be for ever pernicious to the true Interest of *Spain*, and as injurious to them, as the Influence of such Counsels and such a Faction was detrimental to us at the Peace of *Utrecht*.

FOR the *Spaniards* therefore to neglect keeping up a friendly Correspondence with the *English* Nation, and to be forward to run into *French* Fashions, a *French* Trade, and *French* Counsels, must be exceedingly more pernicious to *Spain* than injurious to *England*.

England. The Manners and Genius of the *French* are not more opposite to those of the *Spaniards*, than a *French* Trade is to the true Interest of the Kingdom of *Spain*. For I would ask any one what the *French* would take of the *Spaniards* in return for their Manufactures? For my Part, I know of nothing of any Significancy, except their *Gold* and *Silver*. During the last War, *France* in four Years Time landed at *Brest*, as Mr. *Addison* tells us, Six Millions Sterling of *Spanish* Bullion, which it drew from its Trade with *Spain* in the *West Indies*. And the great End *Lewis* the XIV. aimed at in setting a Prince of the House of *Bourbon* on the *Spanish* Throne, was to draw the Riches of the *Indies* into his own Treasury.

IF this be true, it is very easy to conclude what *Poverty*, *Misery*, *Distress* and *Murmuring*, a Prohibition of *Spanish* Merchandizes will cause in that Nation. If we were to lose two Thirds of all our Trade, or a Market for two Thirds of our Produce at once, let any Man reflect what Confusion, what Convulsions it would throw this Nation

tion into. What Murmurings and Discontents? What Tumults, Riots and Factions, would arise from such an Incident? And what Curses would be daily bestowed on an Administration which should involve us in such Difficulties and Distresses. These Evils will certainly be more or less felt in *Spain*. Let any Man reflect what a Scene of Misery will arise in *Spain* from two Years Prohibition of *Spanish Merchandizes*; and I dare say, such a Prohibition will appear to him of equal Weight with blocking up the *Galleons*, and cutting off Communication with *New Spain*.

LET us not therefore hearken to the specious and deceitful Suggestions of a few covetous and interested Men, who may, only from a View to their own private Advantage, throw seeming Obstacles in our Way, and endeavour, by false Glosses, to deceive us; but let us all heartily unite in pursuing the most vigorous and sure Methods of distressing our common Enemy, advancing the publick Weal, and consuming our own Produce instead of foreign Luxury. By a steady Adherence

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to these Maxims, our Farmers will be enabled to pay their *Rents* better, our Gentlemen and Traders to pay greater *Taxes*, our Poor to subsist more comfortably, and all to bear the Burden of the present War more chearfully. That the War, and its Effects, may soon terminate to the Glory and Advantage of this Nation, is the hearty and sincere Wish of the

Brimhill Farmer,
Jan. 3. 1740.

SUSSEX FARMER.



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